

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ERDA-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00

EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02

SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /138 W

-----131723Z 050239 /47

R 131507Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2085

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT BAGDAD

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 4748

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OPEC

SUBJECT: OPEC SEC GEN SEEKS NEW LOOK IN SECRETARIAT

1. IN SEVERAL RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH E. COUNSL,
OPEC SEC GEN JAIDAH (WHO IMPRESSES AS A RESTLESS PERSON)
HAS EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH THE STRUCTURE

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AND COMPOSITION (WHICH WE INTERPRET TO MEAN PERFORMANCE
TOO) OF THE OPEC SECRETARIAT. JAIDAH ASKED FOR,
AND WAS GIVEN, A LIST OF AMERICAN MANAGEMENT
CONSULTANTS, AND WE UNDERSTOOD THAT ONE NOW HAS
BEEN SELECTED TO DO A STUDY ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT
KNOW WHICH. WE UNDERSTAND TOO THAT SECRETARIAT
REORGANIZATION IS SLATED FOR DISCUSSION AT THE VIENNA

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING ON JUNE 20 & THE STOCKHOLM MINISTERIAL, BUT ARE UNSURE WHETHER JAIDAH WILL BE ABLE TO GET HIS NEW PLANS (PRESUMABLY REFLECTING THE STUDY RESULTS) IN LINE BY THEN. IF NOT, DISCUSSION UNDER THAT ITEM SHOULD BE MORE ROUTINE.

2. IN ESSENCE, JAIDAH'S COMPLAINT IS THAT HE DOES NOT HAVE THE EFFECTIVE, INFLUENTIAL, NON-PARTISAN ORGANIZATION BEHIND HIM THAT HE FEELS IS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT HIS CONCEPT OF THE SEC GEN -- AN ACTIVE, INFLUENTIAL, INDEPENDENT FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM AFFAIRS. TOO MANY OF HIS PEOPLE ARE "POLITICAL DEADWOOD", WHICH WE INTERPRET TO MEAN CAST-OFFS FROM MEMBER STATES WHO HAVE NEITHER THE TALENT TO PLAY AN EFFECTIVE ROLE, OR THE POLITICAL CONNECTIONS TO COMPENSATE FOR THEIR LACK OF ABILITY. JAIDAH ALSO HAS COMPLAINED FREQUENTLY OF "POOR COORDINATION" IN THE ORGANIZATION, WHICH WE INTERPRET TO MEAN THAT OPEC STAFFERS SEE THEMSELVES PRIMARILY AS MEMBER COUNTRY REPS WHO ARE READY -- AND WILLING -- TO ENGAGE IN ALL THE SPATS AND SQUABBLES THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS ARE INVOLVED IN.

3. OUR OWN DEALINGS WITH OPEC -- EXCLUDING THE SPEICAL FUND, WHICH SHIHATA HAS VERY MUCH UNDER CONTROL -- TEND TO CONFIRM JAIDAH'S APPRAISAL. WHETHER OR NOT HE WILL BE ABLE TO CHANGE THIS REMAINS TO BE SEEN. BUT, AS WITH OTHER THINGS, HE SEEMS CONFIDENTIAL

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TO BE TACKLING THE PROBLEM (AS HE PERCEIVES IT) HEAD ON. AND FOR HARD WORK AND TENACITY WE MUST GIVE HIM HIGH MARKS AS HE NEARS COMPLETION OF HIS FIRST SIX MONTHS IN OFFICE. MEEHAN

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